

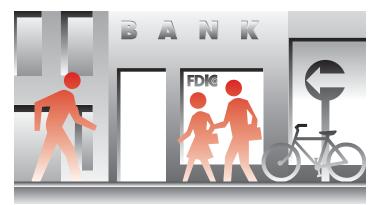
Bringing Communities and Bankers Together





Did you know that...

- The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) encourages financial institutions to help meet the needs of their communities, including low- and moderate-income neighborhoods and individuals, consistent with safe and sound operations.
- Community Affairs (CA) staff meet regularly with bankers, community organizations, small businesses, and local government leaders to promote collaboration among public and private organizations, to identify local credit needs and to develop strategies to meet those needs.
- The FDIC assists financial institutions in identifying community and economic development initiatives in their communities, including projects that promote affordable housing, small and micro-enterprise business development, and financial services.
- CA staff serve as technical advisers to bank examiners on complex Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) and fair lending issues.



FDIC's Community Affairs Program

In 1990, the FDIC established a Community Affairs Program that advances compliance with CRA and the fair lending laws by FDIC-supervised institutions. The FDIC's Division of Compliance and Consumer Affairs administers the program. Community Affairs Staff help to ensure equal access to credit, work with lenders and the public to revitalize communities and serve as intermediaries to further fair lending objectives.

How does the Community Reinvestment Act and fair lending laws affect you?

• The Community Reinvestment Act is intended to encourage depository institutions to help meet the credit needs of the communities in which they operate, including low- and moderate-income neighborhoods, consistent with safe and sound banking operations. It was enacted by Congress in 1977, subsequently revised in 1995, and is implemented by FDIC regulations.

In addition, the following fair lending laws and regulations were designed to ensure access to credit by all sectors of communities, to prohibit discrimination in lending, and to promote fair lending practices.

- The Equal Credit Opportunity Act prohibits discrimination in any aspects of a consumer or commercial credit transaction based on color, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, age, receipt of income from any public assistance program, or the exercise, in good faith, of any right under the Consumer Credit Protection Act.
- The Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination based on race or color, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, or handicap, in all aspects of residential real estate transactions, including, but not limited to: dwelling, purchase real estate loans, selling, brokering or appraising residential real estate; and selling or renting a dwelling.

Who benefits from Community Affairs activities?

You do, whether you're part of the banking community or the general public. When bankers, community organizations, businesses and regulatory agencies work together, everyone benefits.



FDIC Division of Compliance and Consumer Affairs

The FDIC's Division of Compliance and Consumer Affairs is responsible for banks' compliance with the Community Reinvestment Act and fair lending laws, through on-site examinations, community outreach, responses to complaints and inquiries, and other efforts.

How can you get more information about the FDIC's Community Affairs Program?

For information about our program, contact Nelson Hernandez, National Coordinator for Community Affairs, at (202) 942-3266, or your local Community Affairs Officer. Our website address is www.fdic.gov.

See following page for a list of local contacts.

FDIC Regional Offices

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Atlanta: James F. Pilkington

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